



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 6419**

January Session, 2009

\* \_\_\_\_\_ HB06419HS \_\_\_\_\_ 031909 \_\_\_\_\_ \*

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE POLICIES, PRACTICES AND  
PROCEDURES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND  
FAMILIES.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1       Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2009*) The Commissioner of  
2       Children and Families shall submit, in accordance with the provisions  
3       of section 11-4a of the general statutes and within available  
4       appropriations, an annual report to the select committee of the General  
5       Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children regarding  
6       (1) the results of Connecticut comprehensive objective reviews  
7       conducted by the Department of Children and Families, including any  
8       recommendations contained in such reviews and any steps taken by  
9       the department to implement such recommendations; (2) the aggregate  
10      data from each administrative case review, including any information  
11      regarding the strengths and deficiencies of the department's case  
12      review process; and (3) any steps the department is taking to address  
13      department-wide deficiencies.

14      Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2009*) The Commissioner of  
15      Children and Families shall (1) determine measurable outcomes for  
16      each type of service provided by a private provider pursuant to such  
17      provider's contract with the Department of Children and Families; (2)  
18      incorporate such outcomes into the department's contract with each

19 such provider; and (3) include achievement of such outcomes and  
20 other quality indicators in annual evaluations of each such provider.  
21 The department shall, annually, submit a report, in accordance with  
22 section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of  
23 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human  
24 services on the department's progress in implementing such steps,  
25 including (A) the number of service types with outcomes, (B) the types  
26 of outcomes, (C) the incorporation of such outcomes into contracts,  
27 and (D) the application of outcome information into quality  
28 improvement.

29       Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2009*) The Department of Children  
30 and Families shall include the following information in each document  
31 of the department entitled study in support of permanency plan and  
32 status report for permanency planning team, except when otherwise  
33 directed by the Juvenile Court: (1) A description of any problems or  
34 offenses that necessitated the placement of the child with the  
35 department; (2) a description of the type and an analysis of the  
36 effectiveness of the care, treatment and supervision that the  
37 department has provided for the child; (3) a list of each placement  
38 made since the child has been in the care, custody or control of the  
39 department and the length of time the child has spent in each  
40 placement; (4) a list of every school the child has attended since the  
41 child has been in the care, custody or control of the department and  
42 the length of time the child has spent in each school; (5) for each child  
43 in substitute care, the current visitation schedule between the child and  
44 his parents and siblings; (6) a description of every effort taken by the  
45 department to reunite the child with a parent or to find a permanent  
46 placement for the child, including, where applicable, every effort to  
47 assist each parent in remedying factors that contributed to the removal  
48 of the child from the home; (7) a proposed timetable for reunification  
49 of the child and a parent, a permanent placement if continued  
50 substitute care is recommended or a justification of why extended  
51 substitute care is necessary; and (8) whether the child has been visited  
52 no less frequently than every three months by a state or private agency

53 if the child has been placed in foster care outside this state.

54 Sec. 4. Section 46b-129 of the general statutes is amended by adding  
55 subsection (r) as follows (*Effective October 1, 2010*):

56 (NEW) (r) In any proceeding under this section, the Department of  
57 Children and Families shall provide notice to every attorney of record  
58 for each party involved in the proceeding when the department seeks  
59 to transfer a child or youth in its care, custody or control to an out-of-  
60 state placement.

61 Sec. 5. Subdivision (2) of subsection (k) of section 46b-129 of the  
62 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
63 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2009*):

64 (2) At a permanency hearing held in accordance with the provisions  
65 of subdivision (1) of this subsection, the court shall approve a  
66 permanency plan that is in the best interests of the child or youth and  
67 takes into consideration the child's or youth's need for permanency.  
68 The child's or youth's health and safety shall be of paramount concern  
69 in formulating such plan. Such permanency plan may include the goal  
70 of (A) revocation of commitment and reunification of the child or  
71 youth with the parent or guardian, with or without protective  
72 supervision; (B) transfer of guardianship; (C) long-term foster care  
73 with a relative licensed as a foster parent or certified as a relative  
74 caregiver; (D) adoption and filing of termination of parental rights; or  
75 (E) such other planned permanent living arrangement ordered by the  
76 court, provided the Commissioner of Children and Families has  
77 documented a compelling reason why it would not be in the best  
78 interest of the child or youth for the permanency plan to include the  
79 goals in subparagraphs (A) to (D), inclusive, of this subdivision. Such  
80 other planned permanent living arrangement may include, but not be  
81 limited to, placement of a child or youth in an independent living  
82 program or long term foster care with an identified foster parent.  
83 When any such permanency plan includes the goal of revocation of  
84 commitment and reunification of the child or youth with the parent or

85 guardian, the Department of Children and Families shall permit the  
 86 parent to visit with the child or youth at least once a week in a  
 87 designated place.

88 Sec. 6. Subsection (a) of section 17a-111b of the general statutes is  
 89 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*  
 90 *October 1, 2010*):

91 (a) The Commissioner of Children and Families shall make  
 92 reasonable efforts to [reunify] reunite a parent with a child and permit  
 93 the parent to visit with the child at least once a week in a designated  
 94 place unless the court (1) determines that such efforts are not required  
 95 pursuant to subsection (b) of this section or subsection (j) of section  
 96 17a-112, or (2) has approved a permanency plan other than  
 97 reunification pursuant to subsection (k) of section 46b-129.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2009</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2009</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2009</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2010</i>	46b-129
Sec. 5	<i>October 1, 2009</i>	46b-129(k)(2)
Sec. 6	<i>October 1, 2010</i>	17a-111b(a)

**KID** Joint Favorable Subst. C/R

HS

**HS** Joint Favorable Subst.